

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK RULES

Instructions to Exhibitors

All Junior breeding livestock classes in the Guidebook are open to junior breeding livestock project members in the following counties Sonoma, Marin, Napa, Mendocino, Lake, Solano and Humboldt with the following stipulation: Residents of Sonoma and Marin counties will have first priority for exhibit, after that, entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis until entries are full (all barn space is filled) for that species. Junior livestock classes are also open to members of 4-H clubs and FFA chapters of Sonoma and Marin counties who may reside elsewhere, except where specified. Notification of acceptance will be made after close of entries. All exhibitors must abide by Sonoma County Fair rules and regulations. Please read local rules at the beginning of the guidebook for complete information.

All Juniors exhibiting livestock must sign an Exhibitors Code of Excellence

Preparation of animals and projects for exhibit in Junior Categories: The Sonoma County Fair encourages the cooperation of 4-H and FFA exhibitors assisting one another in the preparation and exhibition of their projects. The Fair Association also recommends that some preparation and fitting of the animals should be done at home prior to their arriving on the fairgrounds. It also recognizes that beginning members of the 4-H and FFA need some help and advice. Youngsters working with one another can best accomplish this. (*Learn by doing.*)

Livestock Fitting and Showing: It is the intention of Fair Management that the fitting and preparation of livestock be done by the junior exhibitors. All junior exhibitors are expected to groom and care for their animal(s) when at the fair. Fair management encourages other Sonoma County Fair junior exhibitors to assist each other whenever possible. In order to fulfill our primary goal of providing an educational environment for our junior exhibitors, they shall refrain from accepting active assistance from adults and non-exhibiting youth. Any person in violation of the above policy may be reported to the fair management for appropriate action.

Any surgical procedure, injections or insertion of foreign material, substance or drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant or similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, confirmation or appearance of an animal's body is prohibited. This includes vegetable oil, silicone, air or any other substance used to alter the shape of the animal. Acceptable practices of physical preparation, which are allowed, include clipping of hair, trimming of hooves, external applications of substances for appearance to the hoofs or horns, dehorning, or surgical procedures required for health.

Market Animals: No hair or skin dyes, paints or colorants (including powder), or adhesives are allowed to be used. No products or materials may be used to manipulate the hair on legs. Exhibitors may continue to use oils or clear coat products to enhance shine as well as external applications of substances for appearance to the hoofs. No shadow painting or practices that change the animal's natural appearance.

Breeding Animals: Changing the natural color of the animal is prohibited. No shadow painting. Exhibitors may use products that enhance the natural color of the animal.

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Show Dress

Show Dress

1. All FFA exhibitors must wear the uniform of their organization while showing their animals, in chapter groups, or helping to show for another exhibitor. The FFA show uniform shall consist of white trousers, white dress shirt (short or long sleeved) with the FFA emblem attached to the left pocket, and the official FFA blue necktie for boys or FFA blue scarf for girls. The official FFA jacket is optional; if worn, the shirt emblem is not required. Hats or headgear of any kind shall not be worn with the official show uniform while showing.
2. All 4-H Club exhibitors must wear the uniform of their organization while showing their animals, in club groups, or helping to show for another exhibitor. The 4-H Club show uniform for girls shall consist of white pants and white collared dress shirt (short or long sleeved), detachable green 4-H scarf; black, brown, or white footwear; and 4-H hat. The boys uniform for show shall consist of white pants; white collared dress shirt (short or long); green 4-H tie; black, brown or white shoes; and the 4-H hat.
3. All Independent Juniors showing animals must wear white pants (ankle length); white collared dress shirt (short or long sleeved); black, brown, or white footwear. Independent Juniors will show in the appropriate 4-H class. Hanna Boys Center may wear ties.
4. All Grange Members must wear the uniform of their organization while showing their animals, in club groups, or helping to show for another exhibitor. The Grange Member show uniform consist of dark blue denim pants, white button-front dress shirt with collar, official red vest with National Grange emblem on the back, black or brown belt with appropriate buckle and black or brown shoes. Hats or head gear of any kind shall not be worn with the official uniform unless required during equine events. Members may wear achievement and service pins on the vest on the upper left chest. Grange Members will show in appropriate 4-H class.

JUNIOR CODE OF EXCELLENCE

SONOMA COUNTY FAIR CODE OF EXCELLENCE – ADOPTED 1996

Exhibitors of animals at the Sonoma County Fair shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to all junior exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition of any livestock class offered in any event at the Sonoma County Fair. These include: cattle (*beef & dairy*) goats (*dairy, meat & pygmy*), equine (*horse, pony*), llamas, sheep, swine, rabbits, cavy, poultry, dog.

Owners, exhibitors, leaders, parents/guardians, and absolutely responsible persons found to violate this code of excellence or in violation of rules or in practices unethical or inimical with the show program will forfeit premiums, awards, and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition according to rules adopted by the Sonoma County Fair. The following is a listing of rules all exhibitors must follow to enter any animal at the Sonoma County Fair.

1. All exhibitors must have viable proof of ownership available to fair and livestock show Officials at their request. Documents should include current ownership information, transfer of ownership (*if any*), length of ownership, and age of animal(s). Misrepresentation of ownership, age, breed, or any facts relating thereto is prohibited. Exhibitors and their agents and advisors agree to comply with the printed exhibitor guidebook rules upon entry.
2. Any method used to misrepresent the age of an animal for a class in which it is shown is deceptive and considered illegal. Showing an animal for another individual by claiming ownership in order to show in a specific livestock class or event is prohibited. False ownership is illegal.
3. Junior exhibitors are expected to care for, groom, and exhibit their own animals while at the Sonoma County Fair. However, because of the educational nature of livestock shows it is appropriate, on occasion, for leaders, parents/guardians, and/or other approved person to assist in the medical care of livestock, or when safety is a factor.
4. The act of entering an animal into the Sonoma County Fair provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by the owner, exhibitor, leader, parent/guardian, or absolutely responsible person whether or not he or she was actually instrumental in, or had actual knowledge of an act perpetrated to misrepresent or mistreat an animal in contravention of this code of excellence.
5.
 - a) The use of tranquilizers, sedatives, depressants, or any other drugs which alter the physical or physiological state of the animals is illegal. Any drug used on any animal must be approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use in meat producing animals. Additionally, all drugs used on a species of animal must be properly approved for use on the species treated. All exhibitors shall advise show management of any drugs and/or medications administered to an animal. The name of the drug, its purpose, the person who administered the drug, time and date of administration shall be presented to show management prior to the showing and/or sale of the animal. Failure to report this information will result in severe penalty and/or disqualification. Any use of drugs or substances not approved by the Food and Drug Administration is strictly prohibited.
 - b) Animals shall be presented free of drugs at the Sonoma County Fair where they will enter the food chain, this includes meat producing animals, dairy animals producing milk, and poultry producing eggs. The act of entering an animal in the Sonoma County Fair gives consent by owner, exhibitor, leader, parent/guardian,

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or absolutely responsible person for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other requested substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals not entered in an event that culminates with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs other than in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local statutes, regulations, and rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state, local statutes, regulations, and rules affect the animals performance or appearance at the event.

- c) In the case of an animal requiring treatment, all medications shall be administered with written approval by a licensed veterinarian and fair livestock officials shall be notified.
 - d) If the laboratory report of the chemical analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facie evidence such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample of urine, saliva, blood, or other substance tested by the approved laboratory to which it is sent is the one taken for the animal in question, its integrity is preserved and all procedures of said collection, preservation, and transfer to the laboratory pertains to the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken from the animal in question. The owner, leader, parent/guardian, exhibitor, or absolutely responsible person has the burden to prove otherwise at any hearing in regard to the matter conducted by the Sonoma County Fair.
6. Any surgical procedure, injections or insertion of foreign material, substance or drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant or similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, confirmation or appearance of an animal's body is prohibited. This includes vegetable oil, silicone, air or any other substance used to alter the shape of the animal. Acceptable practices of physical preparation, which are allowed, include clipping of hair, trimming of hooves, external applications of substances for appearance to the hoofs or horns, dehorning, or surgical procedures required for health.

Market Animals: No hair or skin dyes, paints or colorants (including powder), or adhesives are allowed to be used. No products or materials may be used to manipulate the hair on legs. Exhibitors may continue to use oils or clear coat products to enhance shine as well as external applications of substances for appearance to the hoofs. No shadow painting or practices that change the animal's natural appearance.

Breeding Animals: Changing the natural color of the animal is prohibited. No shadow painting. Exhibitors may use products that enhance the natural color of the animal.

7. The use of inhumane showing and/or handling practices of devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivance, or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited. Other practices unless under the written authority of a licensed veterinarian, that are not acceptable or prohibited include, but are not limited to, liquid diets for lambs, excessive shrinking, excessive exercising, tying animals with their feet off the ground, icing animals down and electric stimulation.

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8. The balancing of the udder by abnormal means that includes the use of a mechanical contrivance or the injection of fluid or drugs, setting the teats and or occluding with a mechanical contrivance or the use of chemical preparation is illegal. Treating or massaging the udder or its attachments with an irritant or counterirritant is prohibited.
9. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, fair personnel, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited. In the furtherance of their official duty, all judges, fair personnel, or other officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.
10. No owner, exhibitor, leader, parent/guardian, or absolutely responsible person shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate this code of excellence or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate this code of excellence. ***Violation of this rule shall subject such individuals to disciplinary action.***
11. Fair management reserves the right to require animal health certificates. Health inspections and diagnostic tests may be made before or after the animals are on the livestock show premises for exhibitor and animal safety, or to inaugurate disease control procedures which may become necessary in emergencies as determined by animal health officials.

In addition to these rules, all exhibitors are responsible for compliance with any federal, state, county, or local rules.

SONOMA COUNTY FAIR EXHIBITOR CODE OF EXCELLENCE

As a youth participant at the Sonoma County Fair & Exposition:

I believe my participation in the youth program should demonstrate my own ability, knowledge and skill, and my own investment of time in the project I am exhibiting. I will do my own work and accept only advice and support from others.

I will read and understand the rules and regulations found in the Code of Excellence as well as those rules and regulations found in the Sonoma County fair Exhibitors Guidebook and the state rules for California Fairs. I ask that my parents and supervisor/leader of my project not break any rules or make exceptions on my behalf. I wish for my project to be an example of how to accept what life has to offer, good and bad, and how to live with the outcome.

I will not use abusive, questionable or unethical techniques in the preparation, presentation, or handling of my project. I will not resort to fraudulent, deceptive, or illegal practices when preparing my project for exhibition. I will also not allow my parents, advisor, supervisor/leader, or any other adult or minor to employ such practices to my project.

I realize I am responsible for:

- the proper care and treatment of my project,
- the presentation of my exhibit at the fair,
- the production of wholesome food, fiber, clothing, and textiles,
- and the development of sound moral character in myself and others.

I understand that when I, my parent/guardians, my supervisor/leader, or any other adult or minor connected with my project break the rules, I must live by the decision of the fair management.

Acknowledgement of understanding and compliance with these rules are agreed to upon typing YES during the online entry process.

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION RULES

The rules listed on the following pages apply to all market animal departments; poultry, rabbit, steers, lambs, goats and swine.

1. Sonoma County Fair Junior Livestock Auction is a terminal auction. All animals deemed market ready by the judge must be sold at the auction. The animals that are sold in the sales ring must be processed by the packing house selected by the fair.
2. Junior exhibitors in the market classes will be limited to those students who are a Sonoma or Marin resident and were enrolled in elementary or high school during the 2023-2024 school year.
3. You can only exhibit 2 market animals/pens per exhibitor. All pre-registered animals must be officially entered to be shown.
4. A 6% commission will be charged on each sale (including add-ons).
5. Only animals entered in the Junior Market Animal classes at the Sonoma County Fair will be eligible for entry in the Junior Auction. Sonoma County Fair requires junior livestock exhibitors to own and manage their market animals for at least the following periods prior to the fair's commencement:
 - **No less than 30 consecutive days for market pens (rabbits & poultry)**
 - **No less than 60 consecutive days for market swine, market lamb and market goat**
 - **No less than 120 consecutive days for a market steer**
6. Exhibitor must have proof of ownership available if requested.
7. If exhibitor chooses to raise additional animals, exhibitor must select which 2 animals will be brought to the fairgrounds prior to arrival on grounds. Once they arrive, no substitutions will be allowed. To be eligible; all animals must be pre-registered and entered.
8. Market Animal Fitting: No hair or skin dyes, paints or colorants (including powder), or adhesives are allowed to be used. No products or materials may be used to manipulate the hair on legs. Exhibitors may continue to use oils or clear coat products to enhance shine as well as external applications of substances for appearance to the hoofs. No shadow painting or practices that change the animal's natural appearance.
9. To show market livestock as an Independent Junior, exhibitor must have the following items submitted to the Entry Office by close of entries:
 - Proof of ownership
 - Full photo of animal
 - Proof of enrollment in school/age

Junior Livestock Auction Times

Market Lamb Auction:	Sunday, August 4	9:00 a.m.	Wilford Ring
Market Goat Auction:	Sunday, August 4	9:00 a.m.	Wilford Ring
Poultry Meat Pen Auction:	Sunday, August 4	9:00 a.m.	Wilford Ring
Market Hog Auction:	Monday, August 5	9:00 a.m.	Dorfman Ring
Rabbit Meat Pen Auction:	Monday, August 5	9:00 a.m.	Dorfman Ring
Ag Mechanics Auction:	Tuesday, August 6	4:30 p.m.	Jamison Ring
Market Beef Auction:	Tuesday, August 6	5:00 p.m.	Wilford Ring

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1. Sonoma County Fair Junior Livestock Auction is a terminal auction. All animals deemed market ready by the judge must be sold at the auction. The animals that are sold in the sales ring must be processed by the packing house selected by the fair.
2. All exhibitors selling animals in the Junior Livestock Auction must wear show dress as mentioned on the INSTRUCTIONS TO EXHIBITOR PAGE listed at the beginning of the youth livestock department. All Independent Junior Exhibitors selling animals must wear ankle length white pants, white blouse or shirt; black, brown, or white footwear.
3. Junior livestock exhibitors must show their own project animals in market evaluation classes, unless two of their project animals are assigned to the same weight class. Exhibitors requiring a special exemption to this rule must submit a written request to show management prior to the show to obtain official approval.
4. Exhibitors who fail to go through the sales ring when their animal is sold may be banned from showing any animal(s) in the Market Classes at the Sonoma County Fair, or their market animal will be sold at market price only. This decision will be left up to the Fair management.
5. The Sonoma County Fair Livestock scale is the only acceptable certified scale. NO PRIVATE SCALE WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE GROUNDS.
6. Any market animal entered in the sale may be disqualified at any time by the Agricultural Committee and an official veterinarian if it has or develops any condition that would make it undesirable for auction.
7. The Sonoma County Fair will charge 6% commission on the purchase price & any add-on's of each animal sold in the auction. This is to cover costs associated with the Junior Livestock Auction.
8. Painting, placing signs, designs, etc. on animals on auction day is strictly forbidden
9. The Fair Association will not assume the responsibility for injured animals, sickness or death of livestock prior to the auction.
10. Exhibitors are to assume ownership of their animals until the auctioneer announces they are sold in the sale ring. Exhibitor is responsible to feed & care for their animal after lotting & until the animal is sold and returned to pen.
11. Exhibitors will be disqualified from showing if a parent, grandparent, aunt or uncle purchases their animal and fails to pay. The deadline for settlement for any prior year's debt will be the current close of entry date.
12. Exhibitor/Seller check will be issued no sooner than **September 13th**, pending buyer's full payment and receipt of thank you note.
13. **Seller will forfeit their check if thank you notes are not submitted to the Entry Office within 15 days from the ending date of the fair.**
14. Checks must be cashed within 90 days of issue or they will be voided.
15. Late livestock entries will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on July 12, 2024 for a \$100.00 late fee. Exhibitors must call the office when entering late.
16. Exhibitors who fail to abide by the Code of Excellence may have their market animal scratched from the sale. In all cases, the animal will be processed and the exhibitor will receive market price for the animal.

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17. Pre-Registration and weigh-in must be completed on all market steers, lambs and goats as follows – prior to 60/120 day ownership dates:
 - a) Steer Pre-Registration – Sunday, April 14, 2024
 - b) Lamb and Goat Pre-Registration – Saturday, May 18, 2024
17. The seller will be responsible for any animal declared unfit at the packing plant due to drug residues. Animals will be tested for drug residues and drugs not approved for animal use should not be used. This includes medicated foods. Use of extra-label drugs will require a veterinarian's written approval and withdrawal periods shall be strictly enforced.
18. A Declaration of Medication Form must be filled out for each market animal entered into the fair. This form must be submitted to the Livestock Office upon arrival.
19. **NEW for 2024:** The Market Hog Auction will be an all custom auction with the option to donate the meat to the Redwood Empire Food Bank. Please contact the Entry Office with any questions.



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MARKET LIVESTOCK DRUG RESIDUE TESTING RULES

1. The Fair has a zero tolerance policy regarding the use of unapproved drugs, chemicals, feed additives or medications on market livestock, and will be conducting Drug Residue testing at the fair to ensure compliance. Unapproved means not approved, or exceeds acceptable residue tolerance levels, by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). If an animal has been administered a drug that is FDA approved for its species and class, sufficient time must have passed so that the animal does not test positive (above federally approved residue tolerance level) for that drug upon arrival at the Sonoma County Fair.
2. Immediately after they are selected, the top four placing large animals (4-H Champion, 4-H Reserve Champion, FFA Champion, and FFA Reserve Champion) in market beef, market hog, market lamb, and market goats will be diverted to an official testing area and tested for drug residue.
3. The animal, exhibitor and parent or legal guardian will be directed to stay in their designated area until the sample has been collected.
4. The Fair reserves the right to randomly select and test any animal at any time regardless of it's placing in the show.
5. Animals that test positive for residues from any foreign substance that is not approved for use in meat animals by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), will be disqualified. Additionally:
 - a. Exhibitor and exhibitor's parents and/or guardians agree that the Sonoma County Fair shall be entitled to disqualify any exhibitor whose animal tests positive for any drug even if the exhibitor and the exhibitor's parents or guardians are innocent of any wrongdoing and had no role in the administration of the drug shown by the drug test.
 - b. Any exhibitor whose animal is disqualified, will not be allowed to exhibit or sell any other animals in this year's Junior Livestock Auction program or exhibit at any future Sonoma County Fairs as junior exhibitor, and will forfeit any sale proceeds if they already sold another animal at this year's fair prior to their disqualification.
 - c. The Sonoma County Fair Exposition, Inc. will in no way be held liable or responsible for the value of animals that are disqualified.
 - d. The exhibitor will forfeit all rights to any scholarships, special awards, and all sale proceeds including the auction price and market resale value, regardless of their connection to the disqualified animal.
 - e. Changes will not be made to the placings of other animals.
 - f. The identity of the exhibitor may be disclosed publicly as documentation of any board action automatically becomes public record.
6. Carcasses are USDA inspected at harvest and can be condemned or rejected if their tissue samples test positive for drugs not approved by the FDA for use in slaughter animals destined for human consumption. If the carcass of an animal sold through the Sonoma County Fair Junior Livestock Auction is rejected or condemned by the processing facility for these reasons, this animal will be considered disqualified and the seller/exhibitor will be subject to all consequences as outlined above in paragraph and is responsible for the costs associated with the harvest and rendering of condemned carcasses.

California Rules Definition:


Drug - a) any substance intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, prevention, or treatment of disease; and b) any substance, except food and water, which is intended to affect the structure or function of the body of any exhibit animal.

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION DEPARTMENT

THANK YOU NOTES FOR AUCTION

1. Thank you note must be written to each buyer, including add-ons, of your animal (*if you have 5 buyers you must write 5 notes.*)
2. Standard stationary designed for correspondence or large size greeting cards (*blank inside*) must be used. Minimum size of greeting cards is 5" x 7", minimum paper is 6" x 9".
Binder paper (lined paper of any kind) plain printer paper and index cards are unacceptable. Please note: Small sized thank you note cards are not appropriate.
3. Thank you notes must be written in ink. For those with weak penmanship, erasable ink pens are acceptable. No typed or computer written notes will be acceptable.
4. You must use a standard envelope. Home made envelopes will not be accepted.
5. Envelope must be properly addressed (*in ink*) and stamped before you receive your check. The Fair will not supply any material for your use.
6. Envelope must have complete name of the buyer.
7. Envelope must have the complete return address.
8. Envelope must not be sealed when you turn in your note (*if you do seal it you will be required to open the envelope.*) Please remember that your envelope must have a first class stamp affixed to it.
9. Check will be issued when thank you note is delivered and approved by fair staff.
10. **All notes must include a picture of the exhibitor with their animal. Photo can be taken by livestock photographer or with a personal camera and must be a minimum of 4"x 6" and printed on photo paper.**
11. Notes must be a minimum of 25 words for exhibitors up to 11 years old. Notes must be a 50-word minimum for those exhibitors 12 years and over.
12. Dirty or smudged thank you notes will not be accepted.
13. **Thank you notes must be turned into office within 15 days of the end of the Fair, or exhibitor may forfeit their payment check.**

Example of Envelope

Your name Address Lot # Specie	
Mr. John Doe Company Address City, State, Zipcode	

Example of Picture



Sample Note

Your note should thank your buyer for supporting the Junior Livestock Auction and that you hope they will continue to support young people.

You can also tell them a little about yourself, such as age and how long you have been active in the Junior Livestock Auction. Tell them about your plans for the future (*money saved for your education, purchase of more animals, etc.*). The buyers are all interested in the young people that they support during the Junior Livestock Auction.

Division 4400 – JLA Thank You Note Award

The Entry Office will award \$50.00 to up to three exhibitors with the top thank you note(s)